

California Weather-Hydro Conditions during July 2007

As of August 1, Water Year 2007 statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 65% of average to date; runoff, 50% of average to date; and reservoir storage, 85% of average for the date. On April 1, the statewide snow pack was about 40% of the April 1 average (the usual date of maximum accumulation). This is the smallest snowpack for April 1 since 1988 when the statewide snowpack was at 30 percent of the April 1 average. On May 1, 2007, the statewide snowpack was only about 25% of normal due to below-normal snowfall and above-normal temperatures during April. Usually, snowmelt continues well into June, but by June 1 of this water year, the statewide snowpack was essentially gone. In general, seasonal precipitation during this water year has been below average, especially in Southern California. On July 31, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Index had a seasonal total of 36.5", which is about 75% of the seasonal average to date and about 73% of average for an entire Water Year (50.0"). During Water Year 2007, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Index had the sixth driest January and March on record. (In contrast, the other large precipitation months of December and February were above normal at 101% and 170% of average, respectively.) The Water Year 2007 October through July seasonal total of 36.5" is the 26th driest year out of 88 years of record. In both Northern and Southern California, fire season began early because of the dryness.

As of June 5, the date of the last forecast for this Water Year, the projected median April-July unimpaired snowmelt runoff for the State's major water supply basins ranged from 56% (Shasta Lake Inflow) to 22% (Tule River). Sacramento River unimpaired runoff observed through July 31 was about 9.6 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 54% of average. (On July 31, 2006, the observed Sacramento River unimpaired runoff through that date was about 31.0 MAF or about 174% of average.) The median forecasts of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley Water Year Type indexes are "Dry" and "Critical," respectively.

Selected Cities Precipitation Accumulation as of 08/01/2007 (National Weather Service Water Year: July through June)					
	Jul 1 to Date 2007 - 2008 (in inches)	% Avg	Jul 1 to Date 2006 - 2007 (in inches)	% Avg	% Avg Jul 1 to Jun 30 2007 - 2008
Eureka	0.97	---	0.04	---	3
Redding	1.15	---	0.00	---	3
Sacramento	0.01	---	0.00	---	0
San Jose	0.01	---	0.00	---	0
Fresno	0.01	---	0.00	---	0
Bakersfield	0.00	---	0.00	---	0
Los Angeles	0.00	---	0.00	---	0
San Diego	0.00	---	0.04	---	0

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 08/01/2007								
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available
Trinity Lake	Trinity	1,681	1,982	85	2,448	69	---	767
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	2,527	3,296	77	4,552	56	-2,025	2,025
Lake Oroville	Feather	2,176	2,619	83	3,538	61	-1,362	1,362
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	723	745	97	966	75	-243	243
Folsom Lake	American	480	703	68	977	49	-497	497
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	1,568	1,449	108	2,420	65	-852	852
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,393	1,530	91	2,030	69	-637	637
Lake McClure	Merced	451	623	72	1,025	44	-574	574
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	224	319	70	520	43	-297	296
Pine Flat Res	Kings	258	509	51	1,000	26	-742	742
Isabella	Kern	156	266	59	568	27	-404	412
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	406	1,022	40	2,039	20	---	1,633

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) 90-Day long-range seasonal weather outlook (for August through October), issued July 19, suggests below average precipitation for Northern California and near average for Southern California. Temperatures are expected to be above normal for almost all of California, except for the coast. The latest CPC long-range weather for August, issued July 31, suggests below average precipitation for Eastern California and average rainfall for the Western portion of the State, including the coast. Temperatures are expected to be above normal for Eastern California and near normal for Western California, including the coast. For both the one- and three-month forecasts, temperatures are expected to be well above average for the American Southwest.